



COMPLIANCE UPDATE
By Kim Slote, policy analyst

COMPLYING WITH THE CLERY ACT

At the 2014 FSA Training Conference in [Session 33](#) - Program Review Essentials and Top 10 Compliance Findings, “crime awareness requirements not being met” was listed as number four on the Top Program Review Findings for institutions. Possible consequences for such findings include: a fine of \$35,000 per offense and/or limitation, suspension or termination of eligibility for student financial aid programs, as well as, denial of recertification or revocation of a provisional Program Participation Agreement. Findings can result from: not publishing or distributing the Annual Report, missing required components on the Annual Report, having inadequately developed campus security policies and procedures, or failing to develop a system to track and log all required categories of crimes for all campus locations. Because the requirements of the Clery Act are somewhat complex, it is important to know where to find helpful resources that will enable institutions to maintain compliance with the laws and regulations.

The U.S. Department of Education has a [Campus Security](#) webpage that lists several resources and training modules. The [Handbook for Campus Safety and Security Reporting](#), published February 2011, is located on the USDE Campus Security webpage. Since the publication of the handbook, there have been added changes in the requirements related to the Clery Act and the Violence Against Women Act. The following links provide additional guidance with dates of publication.

- [Electronic Announcement: Final Regulations Implementing Violence Against Women Act – Oct. 20, 2014](#)
- [Dear Colleague Letter GEN-14-13: Implementation of Changes to the Clery Act made by the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013 \(VAWA\) – July 14, 2014](#)
- [Dear Colleague Letter GEN-15-15: Implementation of the VAWA Final Regulations – July 22, 2015](#)
- [Electronic Announcement: Compliance with the Clery Act – Sep. 8, 2015](#)
- 2015-2016 FSA Handbook, Volume 2, [Chapter 6, page 116](#)
- 2015-2016 FSA Handbook, Volume 2, [Chapter 7, page 147](#)



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For help with writing campus security and safety policies and procedures, check out the [Consumer Information](#) section of the [FSA Assessments](#) page on the [Information for Financial Aid Professionals](#) website. There will also be training on updates to the Clery Act and Consumer Information requirements at the upcoming [2015 FSA Training Conference](#). Registration is still open for the conference to be held in Las Vegas, Nevada, Dec. 1-4. Opportunities will be available to ask questions and talk with USDE staff for additional assistance on this topic.